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Dear Congressman Conyers,

My apologies for not having kept up with your committees. I write after tonight's TV news because of your comments on the fitness of Congressman Ford. He and Jaworski are both in my files because of earlier work and a book well begun but laid aside for other work, including what you may recall, Frame-Up.

The media have had what I presume most would regard as a surprising disinterest. From my experiences I am not surprised.

The last paper decided that you legislators would not be particularly interested in what I shall tell you of Ford. It is the most honest confession I have ever heard of other than journalistic judgements influencing news decisions. Their real reason is they want Ford confirmed because they think it will improve the chances of impeachment.

During his 10 (rather inactive and ineffective) months on the Warren Commission Ford had his former campaign manager, John R. Stiles, on his Congressional payroll, described as a special assistant on the Commission (on which he not only did no work but had not to do) but actually as a ghost writer. I know he wrote Ford's book, Portrait, and I imagine he drafted Ford's private "Warren Report" for Life magazine.

In the book Ford used what was classified as "Top Secret." He swore falsely about this on November 5. The proof that it was false swearing is now a matter of court record. I filed a 5 U.S.C.552 actions against the National Archives on it in federal district court in Washington over their continuing denial of the same information to me. I specify enough in the complaint, to which proof that it is still withheld is appended in the form of correspondence with Archives and GSA. The complaint was filed day before yesterday. I do not have the number of the case or the final text. I did the rough draft of the complaint. A young lawyer friend filed the case for me.

Aside from what I regard as crookedness in putting a political pal on the public payroll to ghost a book, I believe it is reprehensible to obtain and exert a copyright - an exclusive copyright- on the public's information, particularly the classified.

From Ford's account, the amount he got almost equals the Checkers loot. If he split 50-50 with Stiles, then it was almost twice what Nixon took way back when he could hide behind a dog and a cloth coat.

I do not have it, but Newsweek dated about 11/22/64 had a story indicating some kind of flurry within the Commission over Ford's literary endeavors. The Library of Congress should be able to supply it if it interests you. Other proofs I do have compel the belief that in making this available to his ghost Ford broke his word to his colleagues. What he used was never to be seen by anyone, not even the Commission's staff, and that Stiles was not on. By the time he got his book out, there was no Commission left.

Jaworski had CIA connections, laundering money, no less. I got some of this out. I could not get it used ink this part of the country so I gave it to a west coast radio reporter. He did independent checking that confirmed what I gave him, his stations did air it, and it got scant attention in the east. Wonder how Jaworski will decide whether to investigate CIA criminality in the Watergate matters and then whether to take it before the grand jury without complications from his own past. He has refused to resign from that board because he is so enamored of its charitable operations. And he has a record as a whitewasher that can't be equalled. He was special counsel to the Texas Court of Inquiry in the JFK assassination. The joke they turned out under him is not even decent schmalz. He refused to investigate, discouraged Warren Commission investigation in tender areas (tender to the CIA and the FBI in particular), and has a record assuring he is a man who can safely be trusted with a free hand. I have given the Washington Post about 40 pages on him from my files. I don't know if they will use it. And what he particularly discouraged is what Ford used and misused, the secret non-investigation of the report that Oswald had been a federal informant...You are welcome to these things if they interest you. I use my phone without concern, but I assume it is not private. I also expect to be in Washington Tuesday the 20th.

Best regards,